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PATENT APPLICATION

ED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Hans Johann HORN

APR 2 2 2002

Appln. No.: 10/019,422

Group Art Unit:

3722.

iled:

December 20, 2001

RING BINDER MECHANISM

Attorney Docket No.: 3827.083

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98

Notes all the comments of the

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the following documents for the above-identified application which were cited by the Examiner in the corresponding PCT Application (PCT/EP01/04150) as "A" category references and documents cited by the Examiner in the corresponding German Application No. 100 20 200.4. Copies of the documents set forth below and listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, and copies of the search reports, are provided herewith.

- U.S. Patent No. 4,130,368 1.
- U.S. Patent No. 4,566,817 2.
- U.S. Patent No. 3,993,374 3.
- 4. U.S. Patent No. 1,996,463
- U.S. Patent No. 1,163,179 5.
- U.S. Patent No. 1,787,957 6.
- 7. U.S. Patent No. 974,831
- Great Britain Patent No. 22 92 343 A 8.

U.S. PATENT APPLICATION SERIAL NO.: 10/019,422 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

ATTY DOCK: 3827.083

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING AND AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE

I hereby certify that the foregoing INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT Form PTO-1449, including three documents, for U.S. Application No. 10/019,422 filed December 20, 2001, were deposited in first class U.S. mail, postage prepaid, Washington, D.C. 20231, on April 15, 2002.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required at any time during the prosecution of this application without specific authorization, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-0877.

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